# Data Reshaping in R

# Journalism 303: Reshaping and joining data in R

**Martin Frigaard** 

2021-09-21

# **Objectives**



- 1) Recap **dplyr**'s data manipulation verbs
- 2) tidyr's pivoting functions
- 3) Joins with dplyr

### **Materials**



### Follow along with the exercises:

https://mjfrigaard.github.io/csuc-data-journalism/lessons-exercises.html

#### A web version of these slides is located:

https://mjfrigaard.github.io/csuc-data-journalism/slides.html

# Data Manipulation Recap



## We previously learned how to:

- 1) View data with glimpse()
- 2) Select columns with **select()**
- 3) Filter rows with filter()
- 4) Arrange data with arrange()
- 5) Create/change columns with mutate()



# dplyr = a package for manipulating data



# tidyr = a package for *reshaping* data

# Tidy data

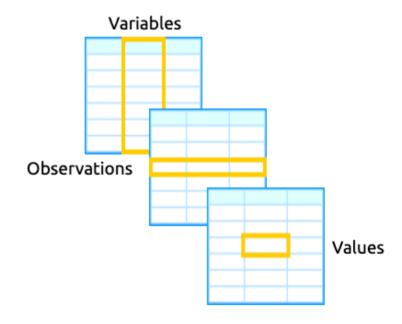


# What are tidy data?

Observations are in rows

Variables are in columns

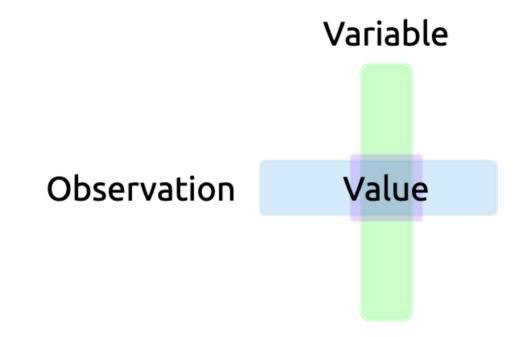
Values are in cells



# Tidy data



Values are the *intersection* of observations and variables



# Non-tidy data



### Copy and paste the code below to create **NotTidy**

group	2019	2020	2021	
<chr></chr>	<chr></chr>	<chr></chr>	<chr></chr>	
Α	102/100	123/100	161/100	
В	179/100	199/100	221/100	
C	223/100	146/100	288/100	
3 rows				

# Non-tidy data



# Why aren't they tidy?

NotTidy %>% View("NotTidy")

NotTidy ×					
⟨□□⟩    ⟨					
^	group <sup>‡</sup>	2019 Ů	2020 🗘	2021 🗘	
1	Α	102/100	123/100	161/100	
2	В	179/100	199/100	221/100	
3	С	223/100	146/100	288/100	

year is across columns...

multiple values in cells...

# Tidying un-tidy data



#### covered in slides

```
pivot_longer() - wide to long
```

pivot\_wider() - long to wide

#### covered in exercises

```
separate() - pull columns apart
separate_rows() - split columns
down rows
unite() - stick columns together
```

unnest() - flatten columns
uncount() - duplicate rows according
to a weighting variable

# Quick tip: viewing your data



Make sure you view the data before assigning it to an object

Use glimpse() or View("Name")

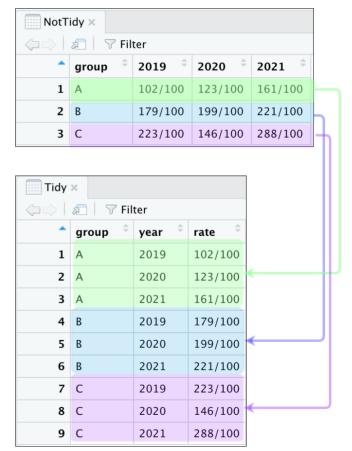
### tidyr::pivot\_longer()



#### Make wide data long

```
NotTidy %>%
  pivot_longer(
    cols = -group,
    names_to = "year",
    values_to = "rate") %>%
  View("Tidy")
```

#### How it pivot\_longer() works



# tidyr::pivot\_longer()



#### How it works:

cols = these are the columns we want to reshape

```
NotTidy %>% # we include by omission
  pivot_longer(cols = -group,
```

names\_to = this is the new variable that will contain the previous column names

values\_to = this is the new variable that will contain the reshaped values

## tidyr::pivot\_longer()



#### **Looks correct?**

### Not quite

Tidy ×					
	₽ Fil	ter			
^	group <sup>‡</sup>	year <sup>‡</sup>	rate <sup>‡</sup>		
1	Α	2019	102/100		
2	Α	2020	123/100		
3	Α	2021	161/100		
4	В	2019	179/100		
5	В	2020	199/100		
6	В	2021	221/100		
7	С	2019	223/100		
8	С	2020	146/100		
9	С	2021	288/100		

## pivot\_longer() = names\_transform

### Print Tidy to console

```
Tidy
```

```
## # A tibble: 9 x 3
##
     group year rate
     <chr> <chr> <chr>
##
## 1 A
           2019
                 102/100
## 2 A
           2020
                 123/100
## 3 A
                 161/100
           2021
                  179/100
## 4 B
           2019
           2020
## 5 B
                 199/100
           2021
                 221/100
## 7 C
           2019
                 223/100
## 8 C
           2020
                  146/100
                  288/100
## 9 C
           2021
```

# Note the format of the columns



## pivot\_longer() = names\_transform

### The new year variable should be numeric

We can control this behavior with names\_transform = list()

```
NotTidy %>%
  pivot_longer(
     cols = -group,
     names_to = "year",
     values_to = "rate",
     names_transform = list(
         year = as.numeric))
```

```
## # A tibble: 9 × 3
    group year rate
##
    <chr> <dbl> <chr>
##
## 1 A
          2019 102/100
## 2 A
          2020 123/100
## 3 A
          2021 161/100
## 4 B
          2019 179/100
## 5 B
          2020 199/100
## 6 B
          2021 221/100
## 7 C
          2019 223/100
## 8 C
          2020 146/100
## 9 C
          2021 288/100
```

## pivot\_longer() = names\_sep



#### Create the SiteRates data

SiteRates ×							
↓ ↓ Filter							
_	site <sup>‡</sup>	2019_Q1 <sup>‡</sup>	2019_Q2 <sup>‡</sup>	2019_Q3 <sup>‡</sup>	2019_Q4 <sup>‡</sup>		
1	Boston	52.00	31.00	26.00	33.40		
2	Philadelphia	7.42	5.51	5.82	6.99		
3	Cincinnati	6.73	4.87	5.02	4.66		
4	Texas	18.20	16.60	17.00	19.00		

# pivot\_longer() = names\_sep



#### **SiteRates** has two variables in the same column

SiteRates ×							
_	site <sup>‡</sup>	2019_Q1 <sup>‡</sup>	2019_Q2 <sup>‡</sup>	2019_Q3 <sup>‡</sup>	2019_Q4 <sup>‡</sup>		
1	Boston	52.00	31.00	26.00	33.40		
2	Philadelphia	7.42	5.51	5.82	6.99		
3	Cincinnati	6.73	4.87	5.02	4.66		
4	Texas	18.20	16.60	17.00	19.00		

We can use names\_sep uses a pattern to split the column (\_Q)

# pivot\_longer() = names\_sep



```
Add names_sep = "_Q"
```

#### year and quarter should also be numeric

```
SiteRates %>%
  pivot_longer(
  -site,
  names_to =
    c("year", "quarter"),
  values_to = "rate",
  names_sep = "_Q",
  names_transform = list(
    year = as.integer,
    quarter = as.integer)) %>%
  View("TidySites")
```

TidySites ×							
↓ ⇒   Æ   ∀ Filter							
_	site <sup>‡</sup>	year	quarter	rate ‡			
1	Boston	2019	1	52.00			
2	Boston	2019	2	31.00			
3	Boston	2019	3	26.00			
4	Boston	2019	4	33.40			
5	Philadelphia	2019	1	7.42			
6	Philadelphia	2019	2	5.51			
7	Philadelphia	2019	3	5.82			
8	Philadelphia	2019	4	6.99			
9	Cincinnati	2019	1	6.73			
10	Cincinnati	2019	2	4.87			
11	Cincinnati	2019	3	5.02			
12	Cincinnati	2019	4	4.66			
13	Texas	2019	1	18.20			
14	Texas	2019	2	16.60			
15	Texas	2019	3	17.00			
16	Texas	2019	4	19.00			



Create the SpaceDogs data. These are names of dogs in the Soviet Space Dogs database.

Some dogs have multiple names, and some share names.

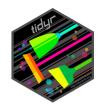


```
SpaceDogs %>%
  View("SpaceDogs")
```

SpaceDogs ×							
	↓ ↓ ▼ Filter						
_	date <sup>‡</sup>	result <sup>‡</sup>	name_1	<b>‡</b>	name_2	<b>÷</b>	
1	1966-02-22	recovered safely	Ugolyok /	Snezhok	Veterok /	Bzdunok	
2	1961-03-25	recovered safely	Zvezdochka		NA		
3	1961-03-09	recovered safely	Chernuskh	Chernuskha			
4	1960-12-22	recovered	Shutka		Kometka		
5	1960-12-01	both dogs died	Mushka		Pchyolka		
6	1960-09-22	recovered safely	Kusachka	/ Otvazhnaya	Neva		

The SpaceDogs data has missing values in name\_2

...two of the columns have a similar prefix (name\_)



# To tidy these data, we can combine what we've learned:

- 1. dplyr::starts\_with() to select the name\_ columns
- 2. names\_to has a special ".value" argument, which is the name of the new column with the name\_ values. We need to include an index column to track the values across different names (dog\_id).
- 3. We can remove missing values with values\_drop\_na

names\_to = # new column for `name\_` values

c(".value", "dog\_id"),



```
SpaceDogs %>%
  pivot_longer( # columns with `name_` prefix
  starts_with("name_"),

SpaceDogs %>%
  pivot_longer(
  starts_with("name_"),
  names_sep = "_",
```

```
SpaceDogs %>%
  pivot_longer(
    starts_with("name_"),
    names_sep = "_",
    names_to =
        c(".value", "dog_id"), # remove missing
    values_drop_na = TRUE)
```



# Add these arguments to pivot\_longer() and add View()

```
SpaceDogs %>%

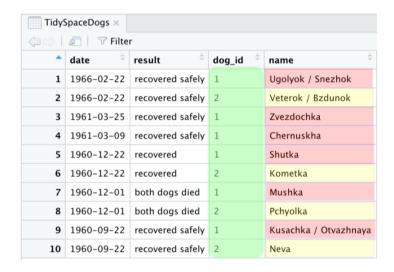
pivot_longer(
    starts_with("name_"),
    names_sep = "_",
    names_to =
        c(".value", "dog_id"),
    values_drop_na = TRUE) %>%

View("TidySpaceDogs")
```

Tidys	TidySpaceDogs ×						
	⟨□ □⟩   ② Filter						
•	date <sup>‡</sup>	result <sup>‡</sup>	dog_id <sup>‡</sup>	name			
1	1966-02-22	recovered safely	1	Ugolyok / Snezhok			
2	1966-02-22	recovered safely	2	Veterok / Bzdunok			
3	1961-03-25	recovered safely	1	Zvezdochka			
4	1961-03-09	recovered safely	1	Chernuskha			
5	1960-12-22	recovered	1	Shutka			
6	1960-12-22	recovered	2	Kometka			
7	1960-12-01	both dogs died	1	Mushka			
8	1960-12-01	both dogs died	2	Pchyolka			
9	1960-09-22	recovered safely	1	Kusachka / Otvazhnaya			
10	1960-09-22	recovered safely	2	Neva			



Spac	SpaceDogs ×					
$\langle \neg \Box \rangle$		r				
*	date <sup>‡</sup>	result <sup>‡</sup>	name_1 <sup>‡</sup>	name_2		
1	1966-02-22	recovered safely	Ugolyok / Snezhok	Veterok / Bzdunok		
2	1961-03-25	recovered safely	Zvezdochka	NA		
3	1961-03-09	recovered safely	Chernuskha	NA		
4	1960-12-22	recovered	Shutka	Kometka		
5	1960-12-01	both dogs died	Mushka	Pchyolka		
6	1960-09-22	recovered safely	Kusachka / Otvazhnaya	Neva		



We can see the new dog\_id index

The missing values have been removed



We've made wide data long, now we will make long data wide

But, why???

Wide data is usually better for displaying summaries

Long data is better for graphing/modeling



### Consider the CatVsDogWide data

These data come from this article in the Washington Post.

#### Economic Policy

Where cats are more popular than dogs in the U.S.—and all over the world





#### Calculate percent pets per household, dog owners, and cat owners

CvDV	CvDWide ×							
	↓ □ ▼ Filter							
^	metric	CA <sup>‡</sup>	TX <sup>‡</sup>	FL <sup>‡</sup>	NY <sup>‡</sup>	PA <sup>‡</sup>		
1	no_of_households	12974	9002	7609	7512	5172		
2	no_of_pet_households	6865	5265	4138	3802	2942		
3	no_of_dog_households	4260	3960	2718	2177	1702		
4	no_of_cat_households	3687	2544	2079	2189	1748		



#### Calculate percent pets per household, dog owners, and cat owners

Step 1. pivot\_long() states into state column, values into value column

```
CatVsDogWide %>%
  pivot_longer(-metric,
    names_to = "state",
    values_to = "value") %>%
# view
View("CvDLong")
```

CvDLong ×						
↓□ ▼ Filter						
_	metric <sup>‡</sup>	state ‡	value <sup>‡</sup>			
1	no_of_households	CA	12974			
2	no_of_households	TX	9002			
3	no_of_households	FL	7609			
4	no_of_households	NY	7512			
5	no_of_households	PA	5172			
6	no_of_pet_households	CA	6865			
7	no_of_pet_households	TX	5265			
8	no_of_pet_households	FL	4138			
9	no_of_pet_households	NY	3802			
10	no_of_pet_households	PA	2942			
11	no_of_dog_households	CA	4260			
12	no_of_dog_households	TX	3960			
13	no_of_dog_households	FL	2718			
14	no_of_dog_households	NY	2177			
15	no_of_dog_households	PA	1702			
16	no_of_cat_households	CA	3687			
17	no_of_cat_households	TX	2544			
18	no_of_cat_households	FL	2079			
19	no_of_cat_households	NY	2189			
20	no_of_cat_households	PA	1748			



#### Calculate percent pets per household, dog owners, and cat owners

Step 1. pivot\_long() states into state column, values into value column Step 2. pivot\_wider() the metric across columns

```
CatVsDogWide %>%
  pivot_longer(-metric, names_to = "state", values_to = "value") %>%
  pivot_wider(names_from = "metric", values_from = "value") %>%
  View("CvDWide")
```

	CvDWide ×						
	⟨□□⟩   ②   ▼ Filter						
_	state <sup>‡</sup>	no_of_households	no_of_pet_households	no_of_dog_households	no_of_cat_households $\stackrel{\diamondsuit}{}$		
1	CA	12974	6865	4260	3687		
2	TX	9002	5265	3960	2544		
3	FL	7609	4138	2718	2079		
4	NY	7512	3802	2177	2189		
5	PA	5172	2942	1702	1748		

Now these data are in a format to calculate percentages!



#### Calculate percent pets per household, dog owners, and cat owners

Step 1. pivot\_long() states into state column, values into value column Step 2. pivot\_wider() the metric and values across columns Step 3. mutate() the perc (percentage) columns

```
CatVsDogWide %>%
   pivot_longer(-metric, names_to = "state", values_to = "value") %>%
   pivot_wider(names_from = "metric", values_from = "value") %>%

mutate(
   perc_pet_household = no_of_pet_households / no_of_households * 100,
   perc_pet_household = round(perc_pet_household, digits = 1),
   perc_dog_owners = no_of_dog_households / no_of_households * 100,
   perc_dog_owners = round(perc_dog_owners, digits = 1),
   perc_cat_owners = no_of_cat_households / no_of_households * 100,
   perc_cat_owners = round(perc_cat_owners, digits = 1)) %>%

View("CvDWide")
```

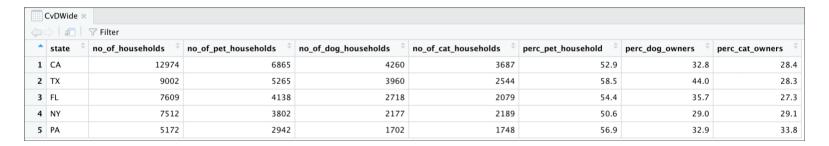


#### Calculate percent pets per household, dog owners, and cat owners

Step 1. pivot\_long() states into state column, values into value column

Step 2. pivot\_wider() the metric and values across columns

Step 3. mutate() the perc (percentage) columns



#### We could assign here, but why stop?

Add select() helpers to reorganize data!

```
select(state,
    contains("perc_dog"), contains("perc_cat"))
```



#### Final code:

Here is the complete pipeline

```
CatVsDogWide %>%
  # pivots
   pivot_longer(
    -metric, names_to = "state", values_to = "value") %>%
   pivot_wider(
    names_from = "metric", values_from = "value") %>%
  # mutate
 mutate(
   perc_pet_household = no_of_pet_households / no_of_households * 100,
   perc_pet_household = round(perc_pet_household, digits = 1),
   perc_dog_owners = no_of_dog_households / no_of_households * 100,
   perc_dog_owners = round(perc_dog_owners, digits = 1),
   perc_cat_owners = no_of_cat_households / no_of_households * 100,
   perc_cat_owners = round(perc_cat_owners, digits = 1)) %>%
 # select
  select(state,
         contains("perc_dog"), contains("perc_cat"))
```



#### Final output:

Here is the final summary table

CvsDPercent ×			
⟨□□⟩   ⟨□□⟩   ∇ Filter			
_	state <sup>‡</sup>	perc_dog_owners	perc_cat_owners
1	CA	32.8	28.4
2	TX	44.0	28.3
3	FL	35.7	27.3
4	NY	29.0	29.1
5	PA	32.9	33.8

# More tidying in the exercises!

separate() - pull columns apart

separate\_rows() - split columns down rows

unite() - stick columns together

unnest() - flatten columns

uncount() - duplicate rows according to a
weighting variable





# dplyr = a package for manipulating relational data

### The dplyr joining functions



dplyr has functions for joining multiple tibbles or data.frames

```
left_join()
right_join()
inner_join()
full_join()
```

<sup>\*</sup>Recall that tibbles and data.frame's are nearly identical

#### dplyr joins



#### Toy data X

Α	В	С
<chr></chr>	<chr></chr>	<int></int>
a	t	1
b	u	2
С	V	3
3 rows		

#### Toy data Y

```
# create Y table
Y <- tibble::tribble(
    ~A, ~B, ~D,
    "a", "t", 3L,
    "b", "u", 2L,
    "d", "W", 1L)</pre>
```

Α	В	D
<chr></chr>	<chr></chr>	<int></int>
a	t	3
b	u	2
d	W	1
3 rows		

#### dplyr left joins



$$left_join(x = , y = )$$

...joins on matches from right-hand table (Y) to left-hand table (X)

```
left_join(
  x = X,
  y = Y
)
```

Keep all data from X, and only matching data from Y

#### This creates:

Α	В	С	D
<chr></chr>	<chr></chr>	<int></int>	<int></int>
а	t	1	3
b	u	2	2
С	V	3	NA
3 rows			

#### dplyr left joins (1)

Left joins use all the data from X (the left-hand table)

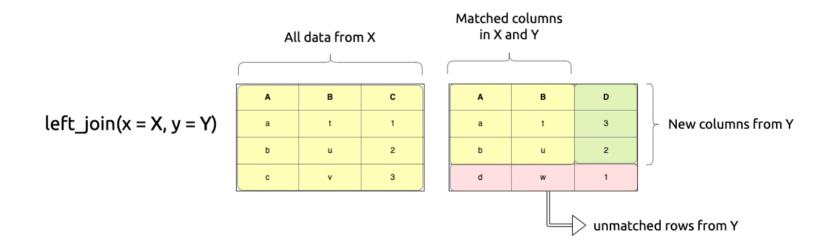
X		
A	В	С
а	t	1
b	u	2
С	v	3

Y		
A	В	D
a	t	3
b	u	2
d	w	1

 $left_join(x = X, y = Y)$ 

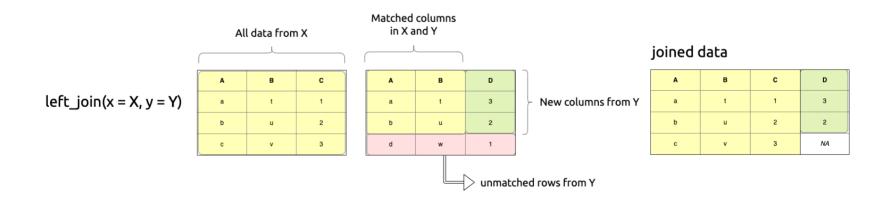
#### dplyr left joins (2)

Left joins include matched data in the right-hand table Y, and it carries over any new corresponding columns



#### dplyr left join (3)

The final data includes the new column(s) from Y (the right-hand table), and missing values for the unmatched rows.



### dplyr right joins



$$right_join(x = , y = )$$

...join on matches *from* right-hand table (Y) *to* left-hand table (X)

$$right_join(x = X, y = Y)$$

Keep all data from Y, and only matching data from X

#### This creates:

A	В	С	D
<chr></chr>	<chr></chr>	<int></int>	<int></int>
а	t	1	3
b	u	2	2
d	W	NA	1
3 rows			

### dplyr right joins (1)

Right joins use all the data from Y (the right-hand table)

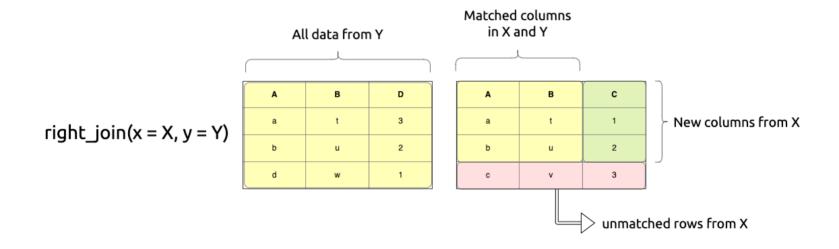
A	В	С
a	t	1
b	u	2
С	v	3

A	В	D
a	t	3
b	u	2
d	w	1

 $right_join(x = X, y = Y)$ 

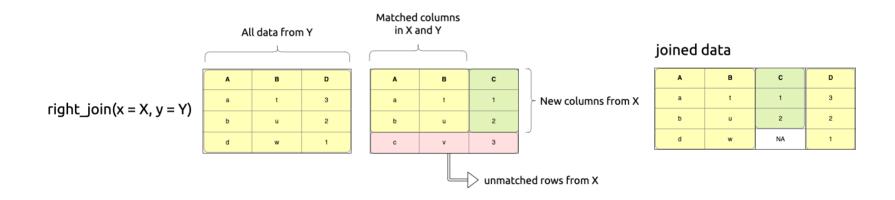
### dplyr right joins (2)

Right joins include the matched data in the lefthand table X, and they carry over any new corresponding columns



### dplyr right joins (3)

The final data includes the new column(s) from X (the left-hand table), and missing values for the unmatched rows.



#### dplyr inner joins



$$inner_join(x = , y = )$$

...keep only matches in both x and y

$$inner_join(x = X, y = Y)$$

Keep only the matching data from X and Y

#### This creates:

Α	В	С	D
<chr></chr>	<chr></chr>	<int></int>	<int></int>
a	t	1	3
b	u	2	2
2 rows			

#### dplyr inner joins (1)

Inner joins use only the matched data from both the X and Y tables

X		
A	В	С
a	t	1
b	u	2
С	v	3

Y		
Α	В	D
a	t	3
b	u	2
d	w	1

 $inner_join(x = X, y = Y)$ 

#### dplyr inner joins (2)

Columns A and B are matched in both X and Y tables

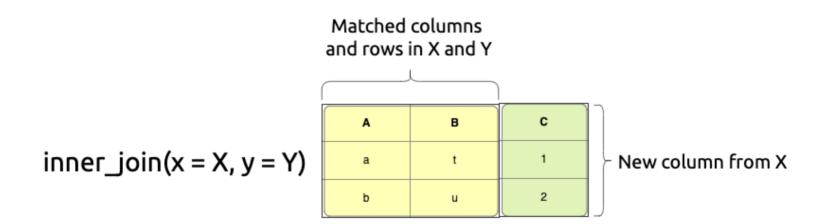
Matched columns and rows in X and Y

 $inner_join(x = X, y = Y)$ 

A	В
a	t
b	u

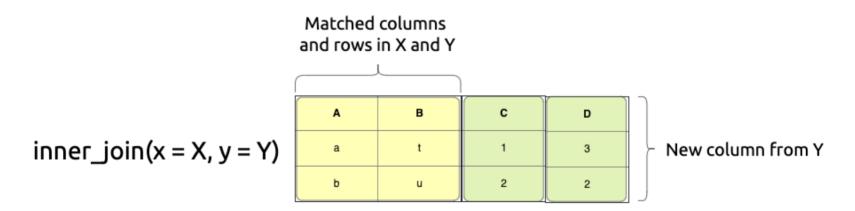
### dplyr inner joins (3)

Column C from table X gets joined on matching columns A and B



#### dplyr inner joins (4)

# Column D from table Y gets joined on matching columns A and B



#### dplyr full joins



$$full_join(x = X, y = Y)$$

#### ...keep all data in both x and y

$$full_join(x = X, y = Y)$$

Keep all data from Y and X

#### This creates:

Α	В	С	D
<chr></chr>	<chr></chr>	<int></int>	<int></int>
а	t	1	3
b	u	2	2
С	V	3	NA
d	W	NA	1
4 rows			

### dplyr full joins (1)

Full joins include all data from both tables X and Y

X		
A	В	С
a	t	1
b	u	2
С	V	3

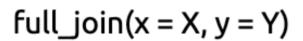
Y

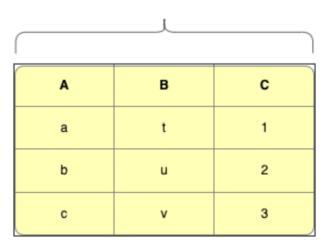
A	В	D
a	t	3
b	u	2
d	w	1

 $full_join(x = X, y = Y)$ 

### dplyr full joins (2)

#### Full joins start with all data in table X

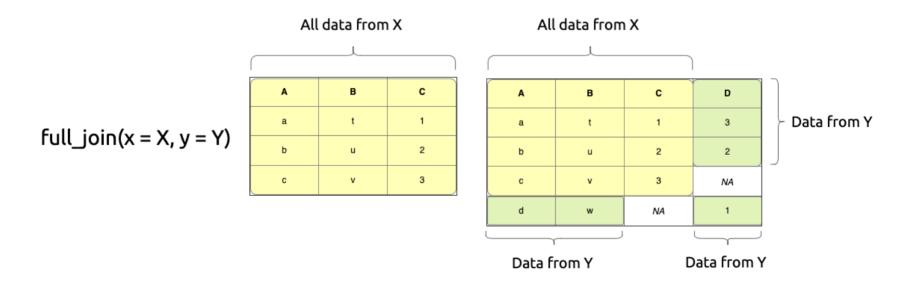




All data from X

#### dplyr full joins (3)

# Full joins start with all data in table X and include the columns and rows from table Y



### Resources for Data Tidying

- 1. R for Data Science
- 2. Data Wrangling with R
- 3. Stack Overflow questions tagged with tidyr
- 4. RStudio Community posts tagged tidyr

